

**Norwich Bulletin**  
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Norwich, Friday, March 24, 1911.

**The Circulation of The Bulletin.**  
The Bulletin has the largest circulation of any paper in Eastern Connecticut, and from three to four times larger than that of any in Norwich. It is delivered to over 3,000 of the 4,053 houses in Norwich, and read by ninety-three per cent. of the people. In Windham it is delivered to over 900 houses, in Putnam and Danbury to over 1,100, and in all of these places it is considered the local daily.  
Eastern Connecticut has forty-five towns, one hundred and sixty-five postoffice districts, and forty-one rural free delivery routes.  
The Bulletin is sold in every town and on all of the R. F. D. routes in Eastern Connecticut.  
**CIRCULATION**  
1901, average ..... 4,415  
1905, average ..... 5,920  
Week ending March 18, ..... 8,175

**WHAT IT HAS GOT.**  
If Springfield, Mass., does not know what it wants, it is pretty well aware of what it has.  
Its civic spirit is something it can feel proud of and every other city in New England would be benefited if it cultivated something approaching it.  
Its latest attraction is a new million dollar hotel, which for a city of that size is something exceptional; and a Boston paper calls attention to the fact "the capital that made the hotel possible was raised at home, the house was built by a home architect, erected by home contractors, decorated by home artisans, completely furnished by home merchants and is managed by a home hotel man."  
It is pointed out that Springfield people believe in Springfield first, last and forever; they think goods sold in Springfield are good enough for Springfield folks; and that money spent in Springfield is money well spent. The glory of Springfield is in the faith of its people in it and their willingness to promote at liberal expense every enterprise which speaks for enlightenment or progress.

**OUR COFFEE PRINCIPALLY AMERICAN.**  
We are the leading nation in the world in the use of coffee and sugar, but we have little to do with the source of supply. The statistics show that in 1910 the total direct importations of Java coffee into the United States amounted to 3,400,000 pounds—though probably through indirect channels this was increased to some extent. From Turkey in Asia we received about a million and a half pounds, and from all Asia, including Java and kindred products, nearly fifteen million pounds. But from South America the importation reached the enormous figures of 796,321,170 pounds, while even North America contributed nearly four times as much as the whole of Asia.  
The value of the coffee brought here from Asia last year was less than two million dollars. The value of the product from sources in North and South America was nearly sixty-seven million dollars, or more than thirty times that from all other world sources.  
It is a curious fact that there is a hundred times as much Mocha coffee drunk here as there is imported, just as there is ten times as much champagne drunk as there is imported. Everything in commerce is not what it seems to be.  
The Boston Transcript feels sure that "both Arabia and the East Indies might be sunk in the sea without materially affecting this country's source of supply of coffee or the prices paid for it."

**THE PRESIDENT'S GRACEFUL ACT.**  
It was a graceful act on the part of President Taft to extend to Booker T. Washington the support of his recognition and faith in his decency and manhood.  
Dr. Washington told a plausible story; and there is no doubt that his assailing of the colored race made a very mistake in his purpose to punish "a nigger" in which he expected to be sustained by the community and the courts.  
Those who know Dr. Washington never for a moment have thought that he was peeping through keyholes, or doing anything unbecoming a gentleman.  
This incident shows that it is a good thing to have high repute among men; and also suggests that a companion in a strange place is very convenient under such circumstances.  
That Booker Washington was honestly searching, his friends do not question, as is shown by the faith in him manifested by Andrew Carnegie, Seth Low and other distinguished Americans.  
The Missouri legislature met last Sunday and sang sacred songs in recognition of the day, which would have made a good impression but for a fist fight.

In Washington's day it took but 136 employees to do the business of the country, but now it takes a half-million. These Sam's payroll will grow no shorter.  
There is one thing certain, the millions of kisses sent by mail may waste considerable ink, but they do not increase the letter carrier's load appreciably.  
Admiral Dewey is not worrying about Japan, for he has a most friendly feeling toward that country and knows it has toward us.

**FOR LIMITING POLITICAL EXPENDITURES.**  
Governor Baldwin takes a firm stand against corrupt political practices and would have the present laws amended so that the expenses shall be limited and every candidate held to strict personal responsibility under oath for his political transactions.  
His recent recommendations are attracting more than ordinary attention from the public. They were as follows:  
"Our corrupt practices act seems to need amendment in several particulars. I recommend the following changes: It should require a sworn return from every candidate for public office, whether he does or does not constitute himself his 'political agent.' This return should cover all expenditures made or liabilities incurred since the preceding November election, either with a view of securing a nomination for, or election to office; specifying separately the expenditures for each purpose; and also all liabilities incurred with a view to either.  
"The act should be so amended as to prohibit any expenditures for meals, or lodging, or cigars, or refreshments of any kind, furnished to members of nominating conventions or to those who had been members of them, on account of that circumstance. It should be so amended as to set a limit of expenditures which no candidate could exceed. Such a limit might be determined by the number of electors entitled to vote for a person to fill the office in question, or by the amount of the salary attached to it. The provision should be reinstated, which was dropped in 1909, empowering the state's attorneys to institute inquiries into charges of corrupt practices in contravention of the statute."  
It is hardly to be expected that these ideas will be enacted into law; but that the law might be very much improved its most ardent supporters will not venture to deny.  
That campaign expenses should be limited was made apparent enough by the publication of costs made under the law.

**NEW STREET SPRINKLING.**  
**WRINKLES.**  
The peck of March dust which is worth a king's ransom was in the air on Wednesday; and the business men recognized that a street sprinkler could have done splendid service.  
The methods of holding the dust down are multiplying and there is a great difference of opinion as to the merits of every one of them. The Bridgeport Standard, in considering the subject says:  
"There is a new wrinkle in the street sprinkling business and that is a mixture of calcium chloride. We have had oil, pure and simple, and oil with such admixtures of other things as have a tendency to improve it as a binder, for holding the top dressing of streets, keeping the finely comminuted particles from being stirred up by every passing vehicle and sent broadcast on the wings of the wind. And most of these compounds of oil are good on some streets, some are good, more or less, on all streets, but none is perfect."  
Bridgeport is a hilly town like Norwich and finds it difficult to hold the surface upon some of its steep thoroughfares and with reference to these it says:  
"There may be some of our hillside streets, Golden Hill for instance, find some treatment that will keep it breaking out after every rain storm but we have a broken stone that recalls Coleridge's characterization of Cologne—a town of monks and bones, and pavements fanged with murderous stones." Not even calcium chloride would cure that!"  
It is a big problem to find the material which will hold a clean surface and battle the force of wind and water.

**EDITORIAL NOTES.**  
These moving picture men have better luck in following up the Black Hand than the police.  
It will not be so very long before the little busy bee will be out improving each shining hour.  
Blessed is the town where the whole increase in the value of property is not in the assessor's office.  
Purifying politics and elevating the stage are continuous stunts, and they might be taken notice of in the census.  
What if Congressman Hobson should refuse to shake hands with Admiral Togo who is now visiting this country?  
Happy thought for today: The first open trolley car is a sign of spring that is more assuring than the first robin.  
We know that the year is young because every baseball team is still looked upon as a possible pennant winner.  
When a politician is asked who is putting up money for his campaign, it is natural for him to lose his voice at once.  
Since Russia has given China ten days in which to apologize, China ought to be able to think of something nice to say.  
Since there are three members of the cabinet Chicago can claim, it has reason to think it is a good part of the administration.  
The democratic party can sustain a deadlock all right. It has been a deadlock upon itself for the best part of a half-century.  
It turns out that Japan's relation to Mexico is not as has been reported, and the sensationalists are now on another still hunt.  
The men who are willing to leave a war with Japan to posterity appear to be endowed with more than ordinary common sense.  
Down in Nova Scotia the automobiles have to be shut up for three days in a week, which shows they have a little regard yet for pedestrians.  
Mr. Ballinger gives notice that he shall sue Mr. Pinchot for libel just as soon as he has a rest. Letting well enough alone is a commendable practice.  
**Kaiser and a Few Others.**  
The Kaiser appears conspicuously again in the census returns showing that there are 81,896,881 people in Germany—Boston Globe.  
Headwear made of straw was in use among the ancient Greeks, but straw hats as worn did not come into use in Europe until half a century ago.

# GOVERNMENT BY COMMISSIONERS

## Answers to Inquiries From Five Kansas Cities

### STILL IN EXPERIMENTAL STAGE

#### Conflict of Opinion—Certain Improvements Recognized by all—Doing Away with Political Lines Does Not Eliminate Human Nature.

Leavenworth, 19,363  
Parsons, Kansas, 12,463  
Pittsburg, Kas., 14,755  
Neodesha, Kas., 3,927  
Newton, Kas., 7,862

1. Is any political designation allowed after the names of candidates on the ballot?  
Leavenworth—Two answered No.  
Parsons—Two answered No.  
Pittsburg—One answered No.  
Neodesha—One answered No.  
Newton—One answered No.  
2. Has the activity of parties in selfishly seeking the election of their own members been diminished?  
Leavenworth—Yes, but the habitual office seekers are just as busy as before and as successful.  
One answered Yes.  
Parsons—No activity of parties—parties not considered.  
One answered No.  
Pittsburg—Changed in form of endeavor to time of nomination (primary election), but the feeling is largely there both at nomination and election, but less intense.  
The activity has not been diminished, but the non-partisan complexion of the commission prevents its operation.  
Neodesha—There was no party activity before and is not now.  
Newton—One answered Yes.  
3. In general, are the elections cleaner?  
Leavenworth—No. At the election of 1909 there was more money spent for the election of the present mayor than ever before.  
One answered Yes.  
Parsons—We have only one election under commission form—did not notice any difference over previous elections.  
One answered Yes.  
Pittsburg—Managed largely by the same people as previously and on the same plan.  
One answered No. Cause not only political lines are wiped out but ward boundaries as well.  
Neodesha—Very little difference.  
Newton—One answered Yes.

4. Are men of higher character and greater ability induced to become candidates for office?  
Leavenworth—Yes, up until now, but this is the first administration under new form.  
One answered No.  
Parsons—No. There are more candidates, however, owing to the salary attached to the offices.  
Pittsburg—Calling a man a commissioner has not made him any better or wiser than when called a councilman. Same class of men are candidates—those who want office.  
The commission form has only been in force here 18 months and the first batch of officials were certainly an improvement over all others previously elected.  
Neodesha—One answered Yes.  
Newton—Do not think so.  
5. Are your aldermen chosen as specialists—that is, for special knowledge of finance, of highways, of building, or departmental work in charities, fire department, water works, etc.?  
Leavenworth—No. It is the same old story. You scratch my back and I scratch yours. The only difference is that a man's party affiliation does not matter.  
One answered No.  
Parsons—The best hustlers for votes win in the primaries. After the commissioners are elected they then divide up the work.  
One answered Yes.  
Pittsburg—There are four men for commissioners and one man for mayor elected in the April election to serve new form.  
These are chosen from eight who are nominated in the primary ten days previous to election day.  
One answered No.  
Neodesha—No. They choose their places after being elected.  
Newton—They are not chosen as specialists.

6. Is there greater and more direct responsibility upon members of the municipal council?  
Leavenworth—Two answered Yes.  
Parsons—Much greater and more direct responsibility.  
One answered Yes.  
Pittsburg—Yes, a great deal.  
Neodesha—No. Less, because a commissioner is responsible only to the entire city; before the councilmen represented a much smaller division of the city, so had local interest and local responsibilities.  
Yes. Each commissioner has his special duties and he is answerable to the people, not to a ward or a party, but to the whole city, under pain of recall.  
Newton—There is no greater responsibility with our officials.

7. Are appointments made by them (more than before) on the grounds of fitness rather than political strength?  
Leavenworth—Fitness is not any more considered than under the old system.  
One answered Yes.  
Parsons—Policemen and jailers are under civil service. No other available appointments here until after spring election, when city clerk, attorney, auditor and police judge will become appointive offices.  
Parsons—Yes. Politics not considered.  
Neodesha—One answered Yes.  
Pittsburg—Practically every appointee is of the same political faith as the appointing power. The exceptions are in cases where the appointees or their friends supported those elected.

8. No politics should be considered, because if a man is put in office to pay political debt, the people will demand an accounting if he is unfit.  
Newton—One answered Yes.  
9. Does the administration in its methods resemble more than the old form the business administration of some large industry?  
Leavenworth—No one answered No.  
One answered Yes.  
Parsons—Not very much. With a mayor and four commissioners for a city of 15,000 there does not seem very much business for them to do.  
One answered Yes.  
Neodesha—One answered Yes.  
Pittsburg—No. They act just the same as before—their nature has not changed.  
That is the intention.  
Newton—One answered Yes.

10. Are the salaries of the mayor and aldermen larger under this form than before?  
Leavenworth—Larger.  
One answered Yes.  
Parsons—Salaries under old form about \$800 per annum. New form of government about \$2,500.  
One answered Yes.  
Neodesha—Yes. There were no salaries before.  
Pittsburg—Yes. Mayor \$1,500 against \$1,000; commissioners \$1,000 against \$500.  
The salaries are larger, but the work is done.  
Newton—Very much. Under the old form the mayor received \$400 per year and councilmen \$200. Commission form—Mayor \$1,000, commissioners \$900.  
6. Has there been greater resulting economy in the administration of the several departments?  
Leavenworth—Not to our knowledge.  
Not much.  
Parsons—Yes. The tax rate, however, has decreased from \$1.84 on the \$100 valuation to \$1.37. Several offices abolished in the street department.  
One answered Yes.  
Neodesha—One answered Yes.  
Pittsburg—Expenditures have increased. Some people, however, claim greater efficiency.  
While we have paid more for our commissioners the results therefrom have fully warranted it.  
Newton—Not to any great extent.

11. Does each member of the municipal council give his full time to the work of administration?  
Leavenworth—Two answered No.  
Parsons—Supposed to, but not work has been done.  
Two commissioners and mayor could do all the work.  
Largely, practically all time.  
Neodesha—No. Mayor gets \$300 and commissioners \$250 annually.  
Pittsburg—No. Meet once a week for about two hours; balance of time divided between their personal business and city affairs.  
The law requires that each commissioner give all the time that the duties of the office require, even if personal business be neglected.  
Newton—One answered No.  
12. Has the financial standing of the city been improved?  
Leavenworth—Yes. On account of new tax law passed by state legislature.  
Has always been good.  
Newton—The city pays cash for everything.  
One answered Yes.  
Neodesha—One answered Yes.  
Pittsburg—One answered No. One did not answer.  
Newton—One answered No.

13. In general, is the new form of government cleaner from political influence, more business-like in administration, more effectively organized, more progressive, more soundly economical?  
Leavenworth—There is very little difference.  
One answered Yes.  
Parsons—Two answered Yes.  
Neodesha—One answered Yes.  
Pittsburg—No. It is, however, a more central form of government. Gives the mayor more power, makes many officers formerly elective appointive, giving better control of men appointed. Same could be applied to the city system. It is a question of good men. In every way—Yes.  
Newton—One answered Yes.

14. What per cent. of voters is required to gain a recall, and is it effective?  
Leavenworth—25 per cent. One, no answer.  
Parsons—15 per cent.; should be 25 per cent. Not been tried, 35 per cent. Never used here.  
Neodesha—That would depend on the size of the city and your state law on the subject.  
Pittsburg—25 percent of votes cast for mayor at last previous election.  
25 per cent. required. Haven't tried it yet, because like the sword of Damocles, the recall is a standing threat in case of negligence or corruption.  
Newton—Cannot recall under three years.

15. Are the public utilities—water, gas and electric lighting plants—owned by the city, and are they inventoried annually, and a balance sheet published, as is the custom of corporations owning such plants?  
Leavenworth—Not owned by city.  
One answered No.  
Parsons—Are not owned by city.  
Neodesha—Owned by city; inventory published.  
Pittsburg—Both answered No.  
Newton—Yes.

A writer from Pittsburg says: I was instrumental in getting the commission form of government in this city. Like everything else it has to be watched until the newness wears off. We used to have eight councilmen and a mayor, whose salaries were \$200 a year each. No one would think of hiring nine men at an aggregate salary of about \$2,000 to handle a business concern whose capitalization was over \$9,000,000, which is our taxed value. We are paying now a mayor \$1,500 and each commissioner or commissioner \$900 a year, and our tax levy will not have to be increased to pay the bill. In a council ruled city you can't get a sewer in the first ward unless there are votes enough to have a sewer ordinance passed. And in order to get those votes the councilman from the first ward many times may have to vote for first ward improvements that are not actually essential. I use this as an illustration. One of our commissioners is a laundry man, one a banker, one a furniture dealer, one a coal miner. Our mayor is a retired farmer and stock raiser.

The Cent-a-Pound Postal Law.  
From the unlucky day when congress, under the mistaken idea of promoting popular education, directed the postoffice to deliver periodicals from house to house for one cent a pound postage, there commenced a marked decline in American literature. That act gave birth to a new kind of magazine, made up of wispy-wispy short stories and sketches of the cheapest kind, but with the real purpose of carrying alluring advertisements into the family household.  
Popularity is brought by the cheap pretense of exposing public abuses, careless of the implicit libel on the nation at large. The actual object is

**AUDITORIUM** Thurs., Fri., Sat.  
MORDAUNT & FOSTER Presenting Taming a Father. The Act of the Hour  
ROSALIE SISTERS Singing, Dancing and Costume Changes  
JACK ATKINS The Census Taker  
RUSSELL & REED That Versatile Team Introducing Singing, Talking, Music, Etc.  
ADMISSION, 10c. EVENINGS, RESERVED SEATS, 20c.

**BREED THEATRE** Performances 2.30 7.30 9.45 P.M.  
MATINEES 5c  
"The Petticoat Sheriff"—Western  
Miss Florence, Browne, Soprano.

**POLI'S**  
Afternoons at 2. Evenings at 8.  
**The Greatest Yet**  
ALL WEEK, THE  
**POLI PLAYERS**  
IN HALL CAINE'S  
POWERFUL DRAMA OF  
THE CHURCH AND SLUMS  
**THE CHRISTIAN**  
Souvenirs of Miss Montgomery at Wednesday Matinee.  
Next Week,  
**"The Two Orphans"**  
MUSIC.  
F. C. GEER  
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IF YOU WANT A FIRST CLASS PIANO, Get a SHONINGER through WHITE, THE TUNER, 45 South A St., Torrville.  
which is under attack for the average man will smile complacently at such assaults. He has, or affects to have, which amounts to the same thing, a contempt for beauty of face in the male.  
The matter is far more serious than this. It is the male figure which is now the object of presumptuous female attack. Naturally it comes from England, where the assaults upon masculine prerogatives are now taking the most acute form. A woman artist commenced it a fashionable portrait painter. She roundly asserts that men are losing whatever good looks they ever had.—Seattle Post-Intelligencer.  
Gross earnings of railroads in Japan were \$3,320 a mile last year. Net earnings were \$3,860.

**"Get the Doctor, Quick"**  
Sudden illness is only one of the many domestic emergencies that cannot be foreseen. In coping with these, telephone service is invaluable. The Police and Fire Departments can be reached as easily as your family physician, and you never can tell at what hour of the day or night the ability to get one or the other may mean life or property saved.

**The Southern New England Telephone Company**

**What Lenox Soap looks like.**  
A cake of Lenox Soap is about 4 inches long; 3 inches wide; and 1 3/4 inches thick. The ends, top and bottom are rounded, so that the cake is easily held in one's hand. The top side of the cake bears the word Lenox; the reverse side, the name of the makers, Procter & Gamble. On the inside of the wrapper are suggestions as to the best way to use Lenox Soap, that are well worth reading.  
**Lenox Soap—**  
**"Just fits the hand"**  
**Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA**